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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/800,542	03/15/2004	Lena L. Heidel	HPA-21702/04	1303
25006	7590	06/16/2005	EXAMINER	
GIFFORD, KRASS, GROH, SPRINKLE & CITKOWSKI, P.C PO BOX 7021 TROY, MI 48007-7021			GRAHAM, GARY K	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			1744	
DATE MAILED: 06/16/2005				

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/800,542

Applicant(s)

HEIDEL, LENA L.

Examiner

Gary K. Graham

Art Unit

1744

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-13 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1, 2 and 4-13 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 3 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 06232004.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: ____.

DETAILED ACTION***Drawings***

The drawings are objected to as failing to comply with 37 CFR 1.84(p)(4) because reference character "70,72" has been used to designate both guides and recesses. Corrected drawing sheets in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d) are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. Any amended replacement drawing sheet should include all of the figures appearing on the immediate prior version of the sheet, even if only one figure is being amended. Each drawing sheet submitted after the filing date of an application must be labeled in the top margin as either "Replacement Sheet" or "New Sheet" pursuant to 37 CFR 1.121(d). If the changes are not accepted by the examiner, the applicant will be notified and informed of any required corrective action in the next Office action. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

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Claims 1, 2, 4 and 13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over McKay (US patent 4,422,201) in view of Suzuki (US patent 4,639,965).

The patent to McKay discloses the invention substantially as is claimed, including a lint roller holder assembly (fig.1) which is comprised of a plastic handle (33) attached to a plastic support cylinder (32). The support cylinder includes flexible fingers (40) thereon for entrapping lint roller (34).

The patent to McKay discloses all of the above recited subject matter with the exception of the handle being axial slidably mounted to the roller support for movement inside the support.

The patent to Suzuki discloses a clothes cleaning device (fig.2) wherein the handle (4) is axially slidably mounted to the cleaning element support (3) for movement between extended and retracted positions. Locking means (12,13) are provided to retain the handle in the extended position. Guide grooves (7) are provided on the handle for receipt of guides (8) on the support.

It would have been obvious to one of skill in the art to provide the handle of McKay as axially slidably mounted to the support element or roller support, as clearly suggested by Suzuki, to enable handle retraction and thus a compact size for storage or travel.

With respect to claim 4, while Suzuki shows the guide grooves on the handle and the guides on the support, to reverse such would have been an obvious variation to one of skill in the art. Mere reversal of the location of parts, absent some criticality of such change, does not appear of patentable significance. It would have been obvious to one of skill in the art, when modifying McKay, to reverse the location of the guide and guide groove, as a mere reversal of parts, to eliminate recesses on the handle that can collect debris.

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Claims 1, 2 and 4-13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over McKay (US patent 6,055,695) in view of Suzuki (US patent 4,639,965).

The patent to McKay discloses the invention substantially as is claimed, including a lint roller holder assembly (fig.1) which is comprised of a plastic handle (15) formed of half handle sections (14) supporting plastic support cylinder (17) formed of half support cylinder sections (16). The support cylinder includes flexible fingers (34) thereon for entrapping lint roller (20). Pins (22) and sockets (26) are provided to hold the sections together.

The patent to McKay discloses all of the above recited subject matter with the exception of the handle being axial slidably mounted to the roller support for movement inside the support.

The patent to Suzuki discloses a clothes cleaning device (fig.2) wherein the handle (4) is axially slidably mounted to the cleaning element support (3) for movement between extended and retracted positions. Locking means (12,13) are provided to retain the handle in the extended position. Guide grooves (7) are provided on the handle for receipt of guides (8) on the support.

It would have been obvious to one of skill in the art to provide the handle of McKay as a separate component axially slidably mounted to the support element or roller support, as clearly suggested by Suzuki, to enable handle retraction and thus a compact size for storage or travel.

With respect to claim 4, while Suzuki shows the guide grooves on the handle and the guides on the support, to reverse such would have been an obvious variation to one of skill in the art. Mere reversal of the location of parts, absent some criticality of such change, does not appear of patentable significance. It would have been obvious to one of skill in the art, when modifying McKay, to reverse the location of the guide and guide groove, as a mere reversal of parts, to eliminate recesses on the handle that can collect debris.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claim 3 is objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Conclusion

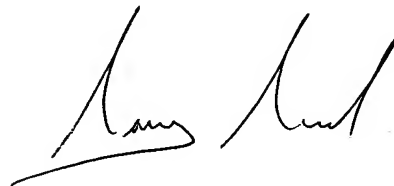
The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Gary K. Graham whose telephone number is 571-272-1274. The examiner can normally be reached on Tuesday to Friday (6:30-4:00).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John Kim can be reached on 571-272-1142. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Gary K. Graham', is positioned above the printed name.

Gary K Graham
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 1744

GKG
13 June 2005